

AMENDED IN ASSEMBLY MARCH 29, 2016

CALIFORNIA LEGISLATURE—2015–16 REGULAR SESSION

**ASSEMBLY BILL**

**No. 1593**

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**Introduced by Assembly Member Members Obernolte and Alejo**  
~~(Coauthor: Assembly Member Mayes)~~ *(Coauthors: Assembly*  
*Members Travis Allen, Baker, Chang, Chávez, Gallagher,*  
*Cristina Garcia, Hadley, Kim, Lackey, Linder, Mayes, Mullin,*  
*Patterson, Wagner, and Wilk)*  
~~(Coauthor: Senator Morrell)~~ *(Coauthors: Senators Anderson, Bates,*  
*Cannella, Fuller, Leno, Morrell, Runner, and Vidak)*

January 6, 2016

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An act to amend Section 48205 of the Education Code, relating to pupil attendance.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

AB 1593, as amended, Obernolte. Pupil attendance: excused absences: naturalization ceremony.

Existing law requires a pupil to be excused from school for specified types of absences and prohibits those excused absences from generating state apportionment payments by deeming them as absences in computing average daily attendance.

This bill would include attending the pupil's naturalization ceremony to become a United States citizen as another type of excused absence.

Vote: majority. Appropriation: no. Fiscal committee: yes.  
State-mandated local program: no.

*The people of the State of California do enact as follows:*

1     SECTION 1. Section 48205 of the Education Code is amended  
2 to read:

3     48205. (a) Notwithstanding Section 48200, a pupil shall be  
4 excused from school when the absence is:

5     (1) Due to ~~his or her~~ *the pupil's* illness.

6     (2) Due to quarantine under the direction of a county or city  
7 health officer.

8     (3) For the purpose of having medical, dental, optometrical, or  
9 chiropractic services rendered.

10    (4) For the purpose of attending the funeral services of a member  
11 of ~~his or her~~ *the pupil's* immediate family, so long as the absence  
12 is not more than one day if the service is conducted in California  
13 and not more than three days if the service is conducted outside  
14 California.

15    (5) For the purpose of jury duty in the manner provided for by  
16 law.

17    (6) Due to the illness or medical appointment during school  
18 hours of a child of whom the pupil is the custodial parent.

19    (7) For justifiable personal reasons, including, but not limited  
20 to, an appearance in court, attendance at a funeral service,  
21 observance of a holiday or ceremony of ~~his or her~~ *the pupil's*  
22 religion, attendance at religious retreats, attendance at an  
23 employment conference, or attendance at an educational conference  
24 on the legislative or judicial process offered by a nonprofit  
25 organization when the pupil's absence is requested in writing by  
26 the parent or guardian and approved by the principal or a designated  
27 representative pursuant to uniform standards established by the  
28 governing board.

29    (8) For the purpose of serving as a member of a precinct board  
30 for an election pursuant to Section 12302 of the Elections Code.

31    (9) For the purpose of spending time with a member of the  
32 pupil's immediate family, who is an active duty member of the  
33 uniformed services, as defined in Section 49701, and has been  
34 called to duty for, is on leave from, or has immediately returned  
35 from, deployment to a combat zone or combat support position.  
36 Absences granted pursuant to this paragraph shall be granted for  
37 a period of time to be determined at the discretion of the  
38 superintendent of the school district.

1 (10) For the purpose of attending the pupil's naturalization  
2 ceremony to become a United States citizen.

3 (b) A pupil absent from school under this section shall be  
4 allowed to complete all assignments and tests missed during the  
5 absence that can be reasonably provided and, upon satisfactory  
6 completion within a reasonable period of time, shall be given full  
7 credit therefor. The teacher of the class from which a pupil is absent  
8 shall determine which tests and assignments shall be reasonably  
9 equivalent to, but not necessarily identical to, the tests and  
10 assignments that the pupil missed during the absence.

11 (c) For purposes of this section, attendance at religious retreats  
12 shall not exceed four hours per semester.

13 (d) Absences pursuant to this section are deemed to be absences  
14 in computing average daily attendance and shall not generate state  
15 apportionment payments.

16 (e) "Immediate family," as used in this section, has the same  
17 meaning as set forth in Section 45194, except that references  
18 therein to "employee" shall be deemed to be references to "pupil."